

**LUCY ROBBINS WELLES LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
JANUARY 14, 2008**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Paul Crosswaith, Marie Dowling, Dennis Doyle, Anna Eddy, Sue Halpin, Judy Igielski, Iris Larsson, Maureen O'Connor Lyons, Tony Palermino, Neil Ryan, Eric Rothauser, Diane Stamm, Sue Wright (arrived at 7:10 PM)

**BOARD MEMBER ABSENT**

Trudie Walker

**STAFF**

Marian Amodeo, Library Director  
Gail Whitney, Secretary for the Board

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON**

David Nagel

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON ABSENT**

Kris Nasinnyk

**GUEST**

Newell Stamm, Jr.

**FRIENDS MEMBER**

Patty Foley

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Maureen O'Connor Lyons at 7:01PM.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**II. SECRETARY'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS/MINUTES**

**MOTION: Tony Palermino made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of December 10, 2007, Marie Dowling seconded the motion, and the motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of December 10, 2007 was unanimously approved with an 12-0 vote.**

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no Public Participation.

The Board discussed the Foley Property since Newell Stamm, Jr. was in attendance at this time. Newell stated that he is a former Library Board member and past president of the Board. He reported that in approximately one week to ten days the Foley property will be leveled. He indicated that it will cost approximately \$6,000 to \$7,000 to place the debris in the landfill. There was also discussion

about removing the two dead trees that are closest to the Library's driveway. Newell agreed to remove those trees as well. Iris Larsson read the following motion. **MOTION: The corporation resolves to authorize the demolition of the single-family residence known as the Foley property at 22 Mill Street, Newington. The Treasurer is authorized to pay directly for Dumpster and landfill costs of the demolished structure (approximately 80 tons @ \$85/ton estimate \$7,000). Judy Igielski so moved this motion, Anna Eddy seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion was unanimously approved with a 12-0 vote.**

Newell indicated he had two other comments not related to the Foley Property. He stated that for approximately \$200 the Library could purchase an N-Router to allow for wireless WIFI service throughout the Library. The speed would increase five times and the coverage three times. He also stated that the parking area outside the front of the Library could be increased at least five cars if the pavement area is extended. This would still allow patrons to do a k-turn should spaces not be available.

#### **IV. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Iris reported that the Board had information in their packets regarding the summary of monies to purchase the Foley property. The total sales price including attorney fees, appraisals, deed recording, tax adjustments, and other miscellaneous expenses totaled \$261,825.14. It is broken down as follows:

\$10,000.00	Original deposit withdrawn from Everbank accounts
\$180,000.00	Withdrawn from Everbank account
\$20,000.00	Withdrawn from Bank of America interest bearing account
\$51,825.14	Withdrawn from Vanguard Investment Account (total amount withdrawn from Vanguard was \$60,000.00. The remainder of the \$60,000.00 was deposited into Bank of America checking account.

Iris also reported that the books are presently at the accountant for review. There is a CD due at TD Banknorth for approximately \$13,000. Additionally, she received the \$2,500 race money from Keeney Manufacturing. She did not have totals for investments for the last quarter, but estimated that Vanguard has approximately \$300,000 and Oakmark approximately \$200,000.

#### **V. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Marian reported that last Saturday the Winter Reading Kickoff was held for children and teens. The four elementary school principals were in attendance for this event.

The Friends newsletter, *Footnotes*, is presently at the printer and will list the February and March programs. There was a program being held this evening on Dr. Martin Luther King.

As Marian reported last month, she received notification that Ruth Miller has passed away and she left \$10,000 to the Library in her will. Ms. Miller was a long time resident of Newington and she died in November at the age of 87 years. She resided at Cedar Mountain Commons.

Marian and Sue Halpin worked very well together on the new Board member orientation. Marian will meet with Trudie Walker when she returns from Florida.

The Newington Charter Revision meetings have begun. Marian is serving as liaison to the Committee and will provide requested information. The open meeting is being aired on Channel 14. The next scheduled meeting of the Charter Revision Committee is January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

## **VI. ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Lisa Masten reported that the Winter Adult Reading program held their kickoff on January 10<sup>th</sup> with 120 people registering on that day. At this time there are approximately 165 adults registered. There will be weekly drawings and a grand prize on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **VII. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Patty Foley reported that the Friends membership is close to 1,000. At the last Friends meeting they honored Eric Bergman who was a Board member and he went off to college. The Friends also honored their "Friend of the Year" and that honor went to Sue Wright. Sue received a proclamation from Mayor Wright. Patty stated that *Footnotes* will be mailed out within the next week, but would appreciate it if the Board would let her know if they do not receive their copy by January 31<sup>st</sup>. The book sale committee is asking permission from the Library Board to place an 8X8 foot/20 feet deep watertight shipping container on the Library's property to store the 50,000 volumes of books that they receive for the book sale. The Friends will purchase this container at a cost of approximately \$1,500 to \$2,500. The Board asked Patty to obtain further information regarding zoning, permits, insurance, etc. and report back to them. Patty reported that in 2011 the Friends will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with at least a year-long celebration. She asked the Board if they had any ideas for this anniversary to please let her know. Judy suggested obtaining a list of original Friends' members.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Planning, Evaluation, Policy Committee**

#### **1. Report on January 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

Neil Ryan reported that the Committee met prior to this evening's Board meeting. They discussed the corporation opening on the Board and hopes to have a recommendation at the February meeting.

### **B. Investment Committee**

Eric reported that he will be working with Iris to get information on the reserve accounts.

### **C. House Committee**

#### **1. Report on Walk-Through**

Marie reported that the Committee did a walk-through on Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> for approximately three hours. She said there is a lot of work with patching, throwing out, rearranging, hallways are dangerous, and storage in the lower basement is packed. The

list will be prioritized and the Committee will report back to the Board on specific projects.

D. Facility and Site

Paul stated he had no report.

E. Fund Development

Anna reported that there will not be a presentation this evening. She will have it ready for next month, along with the policy statement.

F. Budget

1. First Budget Review – January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 PM

Tony reported that there is no money, but to keep our hopes up and hold the line. On January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 PM library administrators and representatives of the Budget Committee will meet with the Town Manager to review the budget. Judy stated that the new Town Council may question how the Library can afford to purchase the Foley Property and that information should be provided to them regarding the unique corporation situation the Board has. She suggested a letter be sent to the Mayor and new Town Council to let them know about the corporation, etc. Marie asked if the Library is listed in the Town Charter. Marian responded that only Town appointees are in the Charter. Dennis stated that at the time of the meeting scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Mayor and Town Council can be made aware of the corporation.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Patriot Act Issues

Eric stated there is nothing new.

B. Foley Property

This was discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Pay Phone in Library

Marian reported that AT&T will no longer be in the pay phone business and therefore will be removing the one in the Library. Patrons can use the pay phone at the Senior and Disabled Center up until 4:30 PM, and up until 10:00 PM at the Community Center. There was concern about children crossing the street in the dark to use the pay phone. Marian stated that a company called Pacific Telemanagement Services would provide a pay phone for an installation cost of \$250 and a starting monthly fee of \$75 until the amount of revenue generated could be determined. Diane asked why patrons couldn't use an extra line on the

Library's regular phone designated for local calls only and with a time limit. Marian will research this further and report back to the Board.

2. Hartford/West Hartford Library Expansions

Maureen stated that the articles in the newspaper regarding both of these expansions were very impressive. There was discussion on the parking issue at the West Hartford Library.

Eric reported that prior to this evening's meeting the Race Committee met for the first time. They hope to line up sponsors by the end of February. The 5K Race is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>. He also mentioned the Trustee Level and encouraged Board members to participate in this. The Race Committee will continue meeting on a monthly basis the same evening as a Board meeting.

**XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no Public Participation.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: Judy Igielski made a motion to adjourn, Eric Rothausser seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion to adjourn was unanimously accepted at 8:19 PM with an 13-0 vote.**